

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0001] of the application as follows:

[0001] The U.S. Government has a paid-up license in this invention and the right in limited circumstances to require the patent owner to license others on reasonable terms as provided for by the terms of contract ~~F0863798C6002~~ F0863798C6002 awarded by the United States Department of the Air Force, Air ~~Training-Education~~ and ~~Education-Training~~ Command.

Please amend paragraph [0010] of the application as follows:

[0010] French Patent 1,568,919 was found to disclose a sterilization method: for baby bottles that utilized monopersulfate in conjunction with ~~sodium chloride~~ a single halide salt (sodium chloride) in a preferred neutral pH range of 6.5 to 7.5. The aqueous sterilizing formulation involved the additional of small amounts of viscous corn oil and magnesium stearate, which served to create an antistatic powdered base for application. Although tested for disinfection of pathogenic biologicals, its application and effect towards toxic chemical neutralization was not covered.

Please amend paragraph [0015] of the application as follows:

[0015] Although the sodium salt of hypochlorite can be typically found in commercial bleach, the active species are based in highly alkaline hydroxide (approximately pH 12) and ~~are~~ can therefore be extremely destructive to materials. Besides possessing these corrosive properties, commercial bleach solutions are known to decompose upon storage, thus diminishing the reliability of their potency if used as a decontaminating solution, ~~and have~~. However, bleach is capable ~~as of~~ serving as a dual disinfectant ~~in that because~~ the presence of hydroxide promotes hydrolysis, and the hypochlorite species serve as strong oxidants, ~~owning to~~ exemplified by its use for the decontamination of chemical agents as described by Yang et al. Chem. Rev. 92, 1729 (1992). Aqueous bleach has been shown to react rapidly with the P-S bond via oxidative-promoted hydrolysis with oxidation also at the tertiary amino group.